# St. Gregory's Newsletter

2<sup>nd</sup> April 2017 5th Sunday of Lent Parish Mass Book page 170



The Parish Office is staffed on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9.00am to 13.00pm.

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Archdiocese of Liverpool Registered Charity No. 32709



## Saint of the Week SS Martha & Lazarus

As there are no feast days this week we focus on the 2 main people other than Jesus in today's Gospel. These brother and sister are close friends of Jesus he eat at their home, and socialised with them. Because of their witness we are told that many people came to believe in Jesus. In them we can see the importance of friendship and the willingness of friends to speak the truth to each other. Jesus had criticised Martha for 'Worrying and fretting about so many things' and she shows her frustration at him for not being there when she needed him, 'My brother would not have died if you had been here'. This honesty does not undermine their friendship but strengthens is. Jesus shows real human emotion at Lazarth's death, while Martha comes to See Jesus not only as a friend but her Lord and God.

#### **Veiling of Statues and Images**

Since last Monday we find ourselves reading through passages from Saint John's Gospel. This continues until Good Friday (with the exception of the Wednesday of Holy Week), when we gather to hear and celebrate the Passion as related by Saint John. These last two and a half weeks we begin to focus on the cross of Jesus: Saint John talks of the growing opposition to Jesus from the Jewish leaders, this leads us towards the cross.

The Fifth Sunday of Lent used to be known as '*Passion Sunday*', not because the Passion was read but because it marked the beginning of a different focus in Lent. Having begun in ashes, and concentrating on the path of repentance, the Church now adds to that journey an emphasis on the Passion and Death of the Lord.

This emphasis, was marked by an increase in the austerity as familiar statues and images were hidden from sight by veils. Even the crosses in church were veiled, leaving only the Stations of the Cross. This gave a special importance to a part of Good Friday, when the cross that was to be venerated was solemnly unveiled

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### **Children's Corner**

## 5th<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent - 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2017

#### Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> April

9:30am John Lilley 11:00am Teresa Thompson 6:30pm People of the Parish

#### Sunday 9th April – Palm Sunday

9:30am Frank Smith 11:00am Peter Evans (A) 6:30pm Oswald Corcoran (A) **3.00pm Service of Reconciliation** 

#### 3:00pm – 4:00pm Holy Hour in front of the Blessed Sacrament with Benediction

#### Weekday Masses

8:30am	Jean Clarkson (LD)
8:30am	Family of Nicola Cameron Rew
8:30am	L.I.S.C.F.
7:00pm	Stations of the Cross
8:30am	Danuta Oborska (LD)
8:30am	Valerie Bretherton
10:00am	Tom Wilcock)
	8:30am 8:30am <b>7:00pm</b> 8:30am 8:30am

Weekly Confession Saturday after morning Mass

Rosary 20 minutes before weekday Mass

#### Please Pray For Our Sick Brothers And Sisters

Kitty Ellison, Jayne Hodge, Kathleen Reynolds, Brigid Cain, Mary Patten, Agnes Martindale, Robert Stretton, Mildred Bridge, Margaret Wood, Harold Sutton, Margaret Bower, Thomas Moss, Gerard Baker, Hugh Daly, Margaret Dearden, Maureen Jackson, Maureen McIver, Bill Burns, Lois Chiasson, Gerard McGuigan, Moya Jones, Teresa Kershaw, Teresa Critchley, Canon Richard Firth

#### **Baptism today**

Congratulations to Luke Jackson Nightingale who will be baptised today please keep him and his family in your prayers

#### Collection

Thank you for your generosity last week's collection of £961.94

#### Lenten Services of Reconciliation

A Service of Reconciliation will take place at St Gregory's on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> April at 3pm, individual confessors will be on hand. The other services will be at St Mary's Monday 7pm & Sacred Heart Tuesday 7pm. Please remember that this is a sacrament of God's love & mercy and is not to be feared.

#### **Marriage Preparation**

The Archdiocese is looking for couples who would be prepared to help those getting married in their preparation. Training will be given, thou your experience of marriage is most important. If you are willing to be involved please contact Maureen O'Brien on 0151 5221044

#### GREAT NEWS !\*!\*

Congratulations to Mr Darbyshire on his appointment as Head teacher at St Gregory's. After his excellent interview the governors were unanimous in his appointment. We assure him of our prayers and all the governors are sure he will be a great asset to the school and a great influence for the children (and the staff) in his care God bless him in the work ahead.

#### Easter

Masses for Easter will be as follows The Vigil (Saturday) 8:15pm, Easter Sunday 9:30am & 11:00 am there will be no Sunday evening mass.

#### Chrism Mass

Bus no full.

#### Lenten Evening of Recollection for Men

Popular "mini-retreat" for men on Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> April, 7pm at St. Joseph's, Anderton. No charge, see poster.

#### Lenten Alms

Any money you save by fasting or other penance may be put in the Lenten Alms Box at the back of church and will be donated to the Nugent Care Society which works for sick and vulnerable people in need of care in our Archdiocese.

#### Ministering to the Assembly

Counters	3 <sup>rd</sup> April, Terence and Sandra Doni	nelly
Rotas	9 <sup>th</sup> April, Palm Sunday	
S.A.S.	Sandra Donnelly, Madge Martin, Ma	ae West
Dial a Ride	Tommy McGuigan and Paul Thomp	son
Readers	Reading of the Passion of our Lord,	as arranged
Euch. Ministers	Yvonne Cunliffe	Margaret Scard
	Chris Huddy	Edward Brierley
	Richard Jackson	Paul Thompson

TBA